two cases of custodial deaths of 1994 came to the notice of National Human Rights Commission. In respect of all these cases the reports of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have been received by the Comission. In respect of two cases of 1995 the Commission have directed that no further action be taken. The other two cases of 1995 are still under consideration of NHRC. Of the two cases of custodial deaths of 1994, one has resulted in very details recommendations, viz:

(i) that the investigation be handed over the an officer not below the rank of Additional Commissioner of Police belonging to an agency other than the local police;

(ii) that the investigation and consequential prosecution of persons involved should be expedited;

(iii) that the allegation of bribery be gone into and in case charge can be linked to the criminal action for torture leading to death, the same should be included;

(iv) departmental action be initiated against all police officers concerned; and

(v) that the next of kin of the deceased be compensated. In this compensation of Rs. 50,000/- should be provided within one month of the recommendation. This amount, though initially payable by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, should be recovered by way of reimbursement, from persons found guilty, through appropriate proceedings.

(d) Each case of custodial death, is scrutinized by Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. The magisterial inquest report forms the substratum of this scrutiny. In respect of deaths in *judicial custody* of the magisterial inquest reports received so far, only in the case of Raj Kumar who died on 6.10.94, the magistrate has reported foul play. FIR against one Jail Warder Neel Bahadur and some prisoners has been lodged in the Police Station Hari Nagar. The matter is now pending in the court of law.

As regards deaths in police custody a detailed note on action taken against errant police officials is at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 174, Annexure 55]

Delay in Installation of Telephone Connections in Allahabad

2218. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending with the District Manager Telephones, Allahabad for installation of permanent telephone connections as on 31st July, 1995;

(b) by when all these telephone connections are likely to be installed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in installation of telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total number of applications for new connections in Allahabad, pending as on 31.7.1995 is 4812.

(b) and (c) The existing exchange capacity has been fully utilised and hence those in the waiting list could not be provided with the connections. During 1995-96, about 11,000 lines of exchange capacity is likely to be added after which new connections will be provided. Also, as per National Telecom Policy, 1994, the telephones would be provided on demand by 1997 all over the country including Allahabad.